

## OMINOUS SIGNS IN GATHERING OF FLEET

Said to Be Outcome of  
Dewey's Prediction.

### TROUBLE WITH GERMANY

Smashing of Monroe Doctrine and  
Acquisition of South American  
Territory May Be Tried.

It is asserted on the authority of a retired naval officer of high rank that the massing of the entire North Atlantic, South Atlantic, and European squadrons in the Caribbean Sea just at this critical moment is the result of foresight on the part of the general board of the navy.

Shortly after the close of the Spanish war Admiral Dewey stated publicly that the next war of this country would be with Germany, and the belief was echoed by many naval officers of less prominence. Even the time was set approximately, at the conclusion of Germany's naval program which contemplated the existence of the most powerful navy in the world by 1908. All of the work of the board and all of that of the Naval War College has been along these lines. The maneuvers of last summer were on the same basis—simulated attack upon our shore by a German fleet. The problem has been worked out a dozen times, in different ways.

Meanwhile Germany was advancing the culmination of her program year by year until the United States attaches abroad reported to the Navy Department that in its modified form it would be complete by 1908. Hence the sudden awakening to the deficiency of the American navy in fleet evolutions, in target firing, in the number of officers and of men, and the necessity for an immediate start toward doing what Germany has been about for several years past, the gathering of a unified fleet.

#### Changes of Opinion.

The changes of opinion among naval officers as to construction and armament have been based upon the character of the ships Germany has been building, and it is noticeable that in the past two years the department has laid special stress upon the need of fighting ships rather than those of great speed, resulting in ordering within the last year cruisers which, to all purposes, were battleships in power and cruisers in name only.

The same naval officer points out that the publication of this suspicion on the part of the United States led to the sudden manifestation of friendly feeling by Kaiser Wilhelm, the visit of Prince Henry, and the exchange of courtesies attendant upon the launching of the Kaiser's yacht; his tour through the country to sound the feeling of the American people, native and naturalized, the following visit of Prince Henry of Fless and his declaration on reaching home that he would like nothing better than to succeed Herr von Holleben at the Washington embassy, finally, though not in true sequence, the invitation to American army officers of high rank to witness the German army maneuvers, the extreme if not extravagant attention shown them, and the apparent frankness with which was displayed to them the power and discipline of the German fighting machine, its military establishment. All of this, it is declared, was for the purpose of throwing off American suspicion and to counteract military action that might be taken upon the conviction of such eminent military men as Admiral Dewey.

#### Needs of Germany.

The general board of the navy, therefore, knowing the near approach of the completion of the German navy, the desire of that country to increase its trade in South America, possible only upon its ability to collect debts contracted in such countries, and the imperative requirement in this case of a naval base and coaling station, foresaw, possibly vaguely, a contingency such as now exists. Instead of the scope originally proposed, the exercising of a comparatively small portion of the navy, it was determined to send thither every ship which could be sent properly manned and which was not needed on the Pacific station. The soundness of this decision seemed to be confirmed by the suspicious operations of Germany at Margarita Island.

So great was deemed the importance of this movement that not merely Admiral Dewey but the majority of the general board itself went down, nominally to witness the maneuvers, really to view the success of their coup and to gather further data for use in the prophesied war with Germany.

#### Great Britain's Position.

Great Britain had not figured in their plans, but the reported prospect that that country will sever its connection with Germany in the attack upon Venezuela removes that element. It was the general board, so it is said, and not the Secretary of the Navy, which planned the distribution of the fleet for the Christmas vacation. Certain it is Admiral Taylor, chief of the Bureau of Navigation, and adviser of the Secretary at such a moment, was with the fleet at the time, and necessarily must have seen and probably approved of the order as prepared and issued by his chief and the president of the general board, Admiral Dewey. That order sent to Trinidad, the nearest port to Venezuela, not itself a Venezuelan port, the most powerful and best equipped battleships of the fleet, together with a swift torpedo-boat destroyer, capable as a messenger of summoning to the South American coast with the least possible delay the remainder of the fighting force.

Cable advices report trouble at Margarita Island. The fleet of pearl-shell fishers there has been terrorized by

## MATTERS OF INTEREST TO WASHINGTON MUSIC LOVERS

The second Peabody recital, which was given last Monday evening in the ballroom of the New Willard, proved an important event in local musical circles. The recital was given by Ernest Hutcheson, pianist. Mr. Hutcheson has been connected with the Peabody for two seasons. He is an Australian by birth, but received much of his musical training in Germany. He has done much concert work, and since his residence in this country has appeared with such organizations as the Boston Symphony Orchestra and Kneisel Quartet.

Hendon Morsell has been engaged to assist the choir of the Church of the Holy Name in the Christmas services. The music is to be under the direction of Miss Mary Hessler. Miss Dougherty will preside at the organ.

Washington has a new tenor in Mr. Battle, a student at Georgetown College, who is said to possess a remarkably sweet voice. It is expected that Mr. Battle will be heard at several concerts this winter and that he will take a conspicuous part in the University Glee Club entertainments.

Through the Metropolitan Opera Company may not come to Washington this season opera lovers here will at least have the opportunity to hear a portion of the organization Tuesday evening, January 20, at the Lafayette Theater when a performance of Gounod's "Philoémon and Baucis" will be given. The production will be in aid of the co-operative sewing societies of this city. Among the well-known singers who will be in the cast are Mme. Seygard, Journet, Salinas and Heathe Gregory. A chorus of forty and an augmented orchestra will assist in the interpretation of the work. The event should prove interesting to music lovers, as this composition of Gounod is not too well known here, but is a beautiful work. Arrangements for the production are in the hands of Miss Mary Cryder, who has done much to further the interests of the music colony of the Capital.

Miss Lena Woodruff, a young mezzo soprano of this city, has been meeting with much favor from the congregation of Foundry M. E. Church, where she has been singing in the absence of Mrs. Chunn, who is ill. Miss Woodruff has a voice of beautiful quality and excellent range. She is a fine reader and an excellent musician withal. For the past few years she has been studying with Dr. Bischoff and has been heard only infrequently in concert, but her friends and those who have attended the services at Foundry will undoubtedly hear more of her this season as her voice and her work will place her in demand for the season's entertainments.

Mackenzie Gordon has decided that he prefers choir and concert work to that of comic opera so has retired from the cast of "The Silver Slipper" which is now at the Broadway Theater. The field of comic opera has not the charms of the concert stage when the work required of each is considered. Rehearsals and a nightly appearance in costume and make-up do not always tend to make the road of an erstwhile concert singer one of easy travel and Mr. Gordon has evidently concluded that a little less of the calcium's glare will be to his liking.

Zelle de Lussan will appear in Washington for a single song recital Wednesday afternoon, January 7, at the Columbia Theater. She will be assisted by Angelo Pronani, pianist. The prima donna has been a popular member of the Grau company for several years, but has concluded to devote this season to song recitals owing to the few cities which figure in the Metropolitan itinerary.

Miss de Lussan takes high rank among the well-known singers of this country and Europe. Although a descendant of one of the oldest families of French nobility, and representative of the fourth generation of famous singers, she is an American born woman, having first seen the light of day in New York city. She is a charming combination of Spanish

British and German men-of-war, and one of them sunk by fire from a Hotchkiss gun for venturing too near the threatening fleet. It is also reported that the allies have been taking soundings there. This is regarded here as a possible indication of a renewal of the old plan of Germany to obtain this place as a naval station, or a preparation to seize the pearl fisheries as security for indemnity.

This latter phase has been discussed at the State Department, but no opinion has been expressed there whether or not it could be regarded as a violation of the Monroe Doctrine. Investigation of the reports will be quietly made here through the Navy Department.

It is understood that in order to prevent further trouble with regard to this island negotiations are now beginning with Castro to secure to this country its permanent possession. When acquired it will be used as a naval station.

Mr. White's Opinion.  
Emory C. White, a cousin of Gov. Albert B. White, of West Virginia, and for twenty years the head of a house which has extensive interests throughout South America, has just returned to New York, having been with his family in different South American countries steadily for two years.

For many years Mr. White has been regarded as an authority on South American affairs. He considers the present situation in Venezuela as ominous in the extreme. He declares Germany's attitude toward Venezuela is part of a carefully laid plan to get a foothold somewhere in South America, and that there is to be no turning back until the Monroe Doctrine has been shattered. Mr. White says that in 1896 Germany had all of South America carefully mapped, and that her line of action, in the event of hostilities, has been decided on. She has placed Venezuela, he says, in

subtlety, French chic, and American vivacity. She made her operatic debut in 1886 as Arline in "The Bohemian Girl," and went to London the following year, where she was engaged for the season at Covent Garden. She sang thirteen consecutive seasons there, an almost unprecedented record.

In addition to her beautiful voice, which lends itself as readily to dramatic as to coloratura music, Mlle. de Lussan possesses beauty of face and figure, grace, dignity, and charm.

Her Washington program will be made up of selections from her long list of operatic roles and songs by French, English, and Italian composers. Mlle. de Lussan has sung in concert many times abroad, but she has never been heard in her native country, except on the operatic stage.

Miss Cornelia Dyas, pianist; Anton Kaspar, violinist, and Wenceslao Villapando, cellist, will give a joint recital in this city early in January. The three musicians are well known here for the excellent character of their work. Miss Dyas appeared in a recital at the New Willard late last season and created a distinctly favorable impression. Mr. Kaspar is recognized as the Capital's best violinist and Mr. Villapando has been conspicuous in musical circles for several years. The program to be offered at the coming recital has not been definitely arranged.

A special symphonic program has been prepared for the concert by the United States Marine Band at the Barracks at 2 o'clock tomorrow afternoon. One of the chief numbers will be a new composition, "Festival March," by Ernest Lent, of this city. Mr. Lent has won a reputation as a composer and the acceptance of his latest work by Mr. Santelmann is viewed in the light of an honor.

The next concert by the Symphony Orchestra of Washington will be given on the afternoon of January 6 at the National Theater. Ossip Gabrilowitch, the young Russian pianist, has been engaged as soloist for the concert. The members of the orchestra have already begun rehearsals and are actively working on some of the numbers which have been selected.

Richard Kay, violinist, of New York, contemplates giving a recital here in January, when he will have the assistance of Clifford Alexander Wiley, baritone. Mr. Kay has been entertaining music lovers in the metropolis with a series of recitals which have proved to be among the interesting musical events of the early season. Mr. Wiley is well known here, where he has a vocal studio. His recitals last winter were thoroughly enjoyed and his admirers will be glad to hear him again.

In conjunction with its series of symphonic concerts the Philadelphia Orchestra has determined upon a Young People's Educational Course, consisting of five lectures and five concerts to be given in Philadelphia. This is one of many movements taken by the management looking toward the establishment of a musical public which will give the organization its patronage. The management of the Philadelphia Orchestra believes that the American people do not take their music seriously enough and that the attendance at important musical events is more of a social function than anything else. It is the purpose of the gentlemen who have the direction of the orchestra in hand to endeavor to create a taste in Philadelphia for better music.

The orchestra will assist in illustrating the lectures. The first will be given by W. J. Henderson on "The Orchestra and Its Instruments," the second by William F. Apthorp on "Old and Modern Orchestration," the third by Louis C. Elson on "Wagner's Theories and Wagner's Music," the fourth by Dr. Hugh A. Clarke, professor of music at the University of Pennsylvania, on "Form," and the fifth by H. F. Krehbiel on "Beethoven."

a position where the best settlement she can make is to give Germany a mortgage on the country on which she cannot even pay the interest. Between owning the country by conquest or owning it by an irremovable mortgage, Mr. White can see little difference.

The first thing that Mr. White did on his return here last week was to write a letter to President Roosevelt on the situation.

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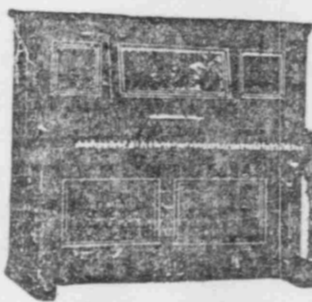
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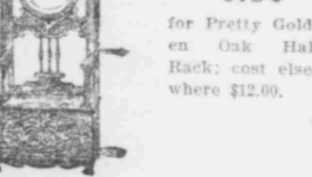
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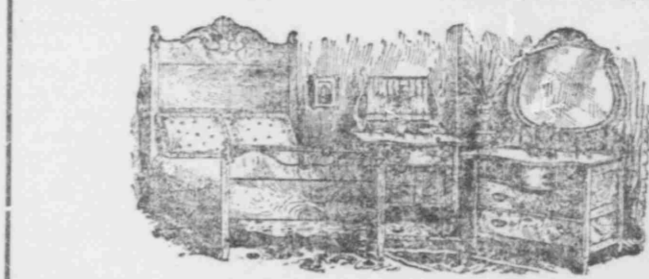
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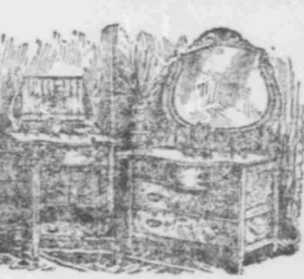
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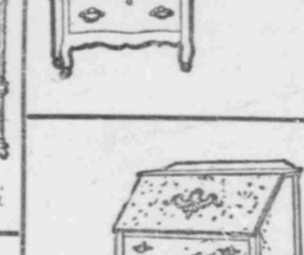
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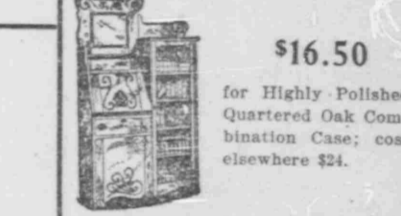


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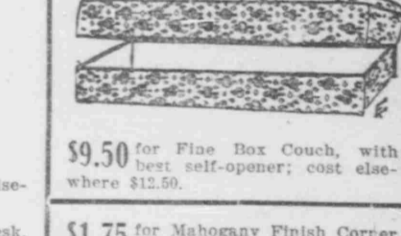
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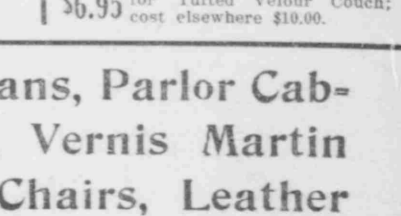
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